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Attorney's Docket No.: 17776-002US1

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 10 and 37 are amended. Claims 9 and 14 are cancelled. Claims 38 and 39 are added. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for transmitting, receiving and manipulating information on a computer system, the apparatus including a plurality of containers, each container being a logically defined data enclosure and comprising:

an information element having information;

a plurality of registers, the plurality of registers forming part of the container and including

a first register for storing a unique container identification value, and

a second register having a representation designating time and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus event time,

an active time register for identifying times at which the container will act upon other containers, processes, systems or gateways,

a passive time register for identifying times at which the container can be acted upon by other containers, processes, systems or gateways, and

a neutral time register for identifying times at which the container may interact with other containers, processes, systems or gateways; and

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a gateway attached to and forming part of the container, the gateway controlling the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the information element is one from the group of text, graphic images, video, audio, a digital pattern, a process, a nested container, bit, natural number and a system.

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes at least one container history register for storing information regarding past interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes, the container history register being modifiable.

4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes at least one system history register for storing information regarding past interaction of the container with different operating system and network processes.

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes at least one predefined register, the predefined register being a register associated with an editor for user selection and being appendable to any container.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes a user-created register, the user-created register being generated by the user, and being appendable to any container.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes a system-defined register, the system-defined register being set, controlled and used by the system, and being appendable to any container.

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8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes at least one acquire register for controlling whether the container adds a register ~~or a container~~ from other containers or adds a container from other containers when interacting with them.

11-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for acting upon another container, the means for acting upon another container using the plurality of registers to determine whether and how the container acts upon other containers.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for allowing interaction, the means for allowing interaction using the plurality of registers to determine whether and how another container can act upon the container.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for gathering information, the means for gathering information recording register information from other containers, systems or processes that interact with the container.

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18. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for reporting information, the means for reporting information providing register information to other containers, systems or processes that interact with the container.

19. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes an expert system including rules defining the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.

20-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently amended) An apparatus for transmitting, receiving and manipulating information on a computer system, the apparatus including a plurality of containers, each container being a logically defined data enclosure and comprising:

an information element having information;

a plurality of registers, the plurality of registers forming part of the container and including

a first register for storing a unique container identification value, and

a second register having a representation designating space and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus three-dimensional space,

an active space register for identifying space in which the container will act upon other containers, processes, systems or gateways,

a passive space register for identifying space in which the container can be acted upon by other containers, processes, systems or gateways,

a neutral space register for identifying space in which the container may interact with other containers, processes, systems or gateways; and

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a gateway attached to and forming part of the container, the gateway controlling the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.

38. (New) An apparatus for transmitting, receiving and manipulating information on a computer system, the apparatus including a plurality of containers, each container being a logically defined data enclosure and comprising:

an information element having information;

a plurality of registers, the plurality of registers forming part of the container and including

a first register for storing a unique container identification value,

a second register having a representation designating time and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus event time, and

at least one acquire register for controlling whether the container adds a register from other containers or adds a container from other containers when interacting with them; and

a gateway attached to and forming part of the container, the gateway controlling the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.

39. (New) An apparatus for transmitting, receiving and manipulating information on a computer system, the apparatus including a plurality of containers, each container being a logically defined data enclosure and comprising:

an information element having information;

a plurality of registers, the plurality of registers forming part of the container and including

a first register for storing a unique container identification value,

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a second register having a representation designating time and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus event time, and

at least one acquire register for controlling whether the container adds a register from other containers or adds a container from other containers when interacting with them; and

a gateway attached to and forming part of the container, the gateway controlling the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.